(d) and (e) To universalize access to secondary education and to improve its quality, a centrally sponsored scheme called Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) has been launched in March 2009 by the Central Government. The scheme envisages enhancing the enrollment ratio to 75% for classes IX-X within 5 years by providing a secondary school within a reasonable distance of every habitation, improving quality of education imparted at secondary level through making all secondary schools conform to prescribed norms, removal of gender, socio-economic and disability barriers, universal access to secondary education by 2017, and universal retention by 2020.

Students in higher education

†225. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the current average of the students entering higher education in the country is 12.4 per cent only;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether this average, is below world average;

(d) if so, the average at world level; and

(e) the time-bound targets set by Government to increase this average and plans worked therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in higher education as a percentage of the population cohort in the age group of 18-23 years is 12.4% based on 2007 enrolment data.

(c) and (d) As per the data obtained from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) website, the corresponding world average of GER in higher education is 26%. The Eleventh Plan aims to achieve GER of 15% by 2011-12 & target of 21% by 2016-17.

(e) During the Eleventh Plan establishment of Central Universities in hitherto uncovered States has been envisaged. 15 New Central Universities have been notified on 15.1.2009 and a second Central University has been established in Jammu Division of the State of Jammu and Kashmir. The Indira Gandhi National Tribal University (IGNTU) has been established for facilitating and promoting studies in areas concerned with the way of life of the tribal population in the country.

A new Regional Centre of the IGNTU has been inaugurated in Manipur. 374 model degree colleges in the districts having GER lower than national level with the Centre-State funding in the ratio of 1:1 for Special Category States and 1:2 for other States has also been proposed for which the

†Original notice of the question was received in HindiUniversity Grants Commission (UGC) has invited

detailed project proposals from State Governments. A scheme is proposed to be started in the Eleventh Plan for incentivizing State Governments for setting up of new institutions or expansion of existing institutions with Central assistance. During the Eleventh Plan, it is intended to strengthen 6000 colleges and 150 State universities with focus on underserved areas to enable these institutions to fulfil the criteria for UGC assistance. The funds would be provided on 1:1 sharing ratio between the Centre and the State Governments. Additional assistance is to be provided to 160 State universities and about 5500 colleges which are already declared fit to receive grants under Section 12B of the UGC Act. Eight new Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) have been set up during the first two years of the Eleventh Plan. Five new Indian Institutes of Science Education & Research (IISERs) have also been set up during this Plan period. Seven new Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) are also proposed to be established. The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has permitted second shift in certain engineering colleges and polytechnics. Expansion of intake in Central Educational Institutions by 54% has been undertaken consequent to the implementation of the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Act, 2006.

Demand of scholastic pay by IIT faculty

226. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN:
SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the demand of IIT faculty members asking for 'scholastic pay' of Rs. 15,000 per month;

(b) if so, by when Government would consider their demand;

(c) the reasons for keeping these gems in 'low paying jobs';

(d) whether Government is aware that many of the gems in various fields in public sector have joined private sector because of the better offer and facilities given to them by the private sector; and

(e) if so, the reasons for Government's dilly-dallying in considering their demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Although no "scholastic pay" has been given to the IIT faculty, the pay revision of the IIT faculty, *interalia*, includes a Performance Related Incentive Scheme (PRIS) in which remuneration will be granted in recognition of distinguished achievement by way of research.